GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1418
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2005
SUB-CLASSIFICATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
Singh Shri Ganesh

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether developed countries are intending to reclassify developing countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India & china have opposed such move of developed countries; and

(d) the strategy adopted by both the countries in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a) to (d): In the ongoing WTO negotiations under the Doha Work Programme, no formal proposal has been made for reclassification of or differentiation among developing countries.

India rejects the creation of any new sub-category among the developing countries at the WTO, and believes that any such effort at the WTO will be contrary to the mandate of the ongoing Doha negotiations, and will further complicate such negotiations. India`s opposition to further differentiation among developing countries is well known to our WTO trading partners. Similar views are also shared by a large number of developing countries including China, with whom India has maintained regular contacts.